

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 133334
ORIGIN NEA-04

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /005 R

66011

DRAFTED BY:NEA/INS:AATHIBAULT

APPROVED BY:NEA/INS:JRGRAHAME

NEA/INS/JOHN P SHUMATE JR

-----115940 251821Z /53

R 251656Z MAY 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 133334

STADIS//////////

FOLLOWING REPEAT NEW DELHI 07700 ACTION SECSTATE DATE
MAY 16:

QTE:C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 7700

STADIS//////////

FOLLOWING RECD FROM BOMBAY SENT NEW DELHI DATED MAY 16, 1978 BEING
RPTD TO YOU.

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BOMBAY 1190

STADIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MNUC, PARM, TECH, IN

SUBJ: INDO-AMERICAN NUCLEAR RELATIONS

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 133334

REF: BOMBAY 1150

1. AFTER DISCUSSION OF HEAVY WATER ISSUE WITH SETHNA ON
MAY 15, HE GAVE ME A RUN DOWN ON EFFORTS IN NEW DELHI LAST
WEEK TO FIND FRUITFUL AVENUES FOR THE PM'S TALKS IN
WASHINGTON. HE HAD FOUND NEW DELHI OFFICIALS TO BE GLOOMY

ABOUT PROSPECTS FOR THE NUCLEAR PORTION OF THE PM'S TALKS. HIS COLLEAGUES HAD REPORTED THAT THERE WERE NO SIGNS OF THE KIND OF PROGRESS IN THE CTB OR SALT II TALKS NECESSARY FOR MJORARJI TO AGREE TO FULL-SCOPE SAFEGUARDS. MOREOVER, THE NEUTRON BOMB PROJECT WAS VIEWED AS INDICATION THAT VERTICAL PROLIFERATION HAS NOT ABATED.

2. ON THE IMMEDIATE ISSUE OF CONTINUING NUCLEAR SUPPLY FOR INDIA, THERE WAS DISTRESS OVER VIGOR OF BRADFORD-GILINSKY MEMORANDUM, SURPRISED AT THE QUICKNESS OF LONG AND OTTINGER MOVE TO OVERRIDE THE PRESIDENT, AND AMUSEMENT OVER REPORTS OF U.S. APPROVAL OF A FULL CORE LOAD FOR BRAZIL'S 600MW REACTOR (INCIDENTALLY SETHNA ASKED WHETHER I HAD ANY REACTION FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF THE AUTHENTICITY OF THIS REPORT). SETHNA SAID THAT THE PM PERSONALLY WAS INDIGNANT THAT WE WOULD LICENSE SUCH A LARGE SHIPMENT FOR BRAZIL, A DEVELOPING COUNTRY THAT REFUSES NPT AND HAS CONTRACTED FOR ENRICHMENT FACILITIES, WHEN WE WERE GIVING INDIA SO MUCH TROUBLE.

3. SETHNA ATTRIBUTED PART OF THE GLOOM IN DELHI TO FALL-OUT FROM THE JANATA PARTY'S DIFFICULTIES WHICH HE BELIEVES HAS SUBSTANTIALLY REDUCED MORARJI'S FLEXIBILITY. HE BELIEVES THAT CONCILIATORY GESTURES TO U.S. WILL BE MORE DIFFICULT AS THE DISPUTING FACTIONS OF JANATA WOULD USE THEM AS SIGNS OF WEAKNESS BY THE P.M.
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 133334

4. SETHNA SAID THAT IN SPITE OF AN INCLINATION AMONG HIS COLLEAGUES TO STAND PAT HE HAD EMPHASIZED THAT INDIA IN ALL LIKELIHOOD WOULD HAVE TO RESIGN ITSELF TO NO MORE U.S. FUEL UNLESS SOME WAY IS FOUND TO RESPOND TO POINTS U.S. CRITICS HAVE MADE REGARDING DISPOSITION OF SPENT FUEL NOW IN INDIA. HOWEVER, HE SAID THAT HIS SUGGESTION FOR MODIFIED BUY-BACK WAS "SHOUTED DOWN." HIS CRITICS NOTED THAT BUY-BACK WAS ORIGINALLY INTENDED TO GUARANTEE FUEL SUPPLY THROUGH 1993. THEY ACCUSED SETHNA OF PROPOSING TO TRADE AWAY WHAT HAD ALWAYS BEEN REGARDED AS A VALUABLE ASSET FOR A FEW YEARS SUPPLY OF FRESH URANIUM.

5. HE SAID HE POINTED OUT THAT BUY-BACK MIGHT AT LEAST GUARANTEE SOME FRESH UF₆, WHILE REPROCESSING WOULD ONLY PROVIDE RAW MATERIALS FROM HIGHLY IRRADIATED FUEL FOR MIXED OXIDE THAT WAS YET TO BE PROVED AND THAT WOULD ONLY SUFFICE FOR A FEW YEARS IN ANY CASE. HE FELT THAT EVEN THOUGH OPPOSITION TO REVIVING BUY-BACK HAD BEEN IMMEDIATE AND LOUD, HE HAD PLANTED THE GERM OF AN INDIA WHICH HAD A SMALL CHANCE OF TAKING HOLD.

6. SETHNA ALSO SAID THAT HE AND SOME OF HIS COLLEAGUES
RMAIN PUZZED OVER WHAT IS WIDELY REGARDED AS U.S. EN-
COURAGEMENT OF BRITISH MEDDLING IN WHAT IS ESSENTIALLY
A BILATERAL INDO-AMERICAN MATTER. HE SAID THAT BIRITISH
HICOM'S APPROACH TO THE PM AND VAJPAYEE HAD BEEN INTER-
PRETED AS AN INDIRECT ATTEMPT BY U.S. TO ADD TO PRESSURE
TO INDIA FOR AN CACCOMMODATION ON NUCLEAR AFFAIRS. HE
AGAIN NOTED THAT FRANCE IS MUCH MORE IMPORTANT THAN THE
U.K. IN CONTIMPORARY NUCLEAR ACCOMPLSIHMENTS, BUT SAID
FRENCH SCRUPULOUSLY REFRAIN FROM INTERFERING IN INDIA'S
RELATIONS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES. HE CONCLUDED THAT THERE
ARE ENOUGH TROUBLES IN TRYING TO WORK OUT SOLUTIONS TO
BILATERAL PROBLEMS WITHOUT INTERVENING BY A COUNTRYTHAT
HASLITTLE TO OFFER INDIA IN THIS AREA. I TOLD HIM
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 STATE 133334

THAT I KNEW OF NO U.S. ENCOURAGEMENT TO BRITISH TO SEEK
FURTHER DEFINITION TO INDIA'S NUCLEAR POLICY. I ADDED
THAT U.K. IS A COUNTRY DEDICATED TO IMPROVING NON-
PROLIFERATION STANDARDS SO I COULD UNDERSTAND THEIR
DESIRE, IN THEIR OWN WAY, TO TRY TO PROMOTE WIDER INTER-
NATIONAL AGREEMENT ON THIS MATTER. I AGREED TO
REPORT HIS MISGIVINGS ABOUT BRITISH ACTIVITIES RELATING
TO U.S. INDIAN DISCUSSIONS. COURTNEY UNQUOTE
CHRISTOPHER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, NUCLEAR COOPERATION PROGRAMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 may 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE133334
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: NEA/INS:AATHIBAULT
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS,5/25/08 FMACHAK 25X6
Errors: n/a
Expiration:
Film Number: D780221-0576
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t197805113/dejejaa.tel
Line Count: 145
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 1c7d3895-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Reference: 78 BOMBAY 1150
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2540983
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 20010604
Subject: INDO-AMERICAN NUCLEAR RELATIONS CONFIDENTIAL CONFIDENTIAL
TAGS: MNUC, PARM, TECH, IN, US
To: LONDON
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/1c7d3895-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014